

Good News!

16th December 2018 • Advent Three

Welcome to everyone at Mass today, especially if you are new to our church or haven't been to Mass for some time. Practising Catholics, clear in conscience that they are properly prepared, may receive **holy communion**. Others are invited to come forward for a **blessing**. If so, please place your hand on your heart to indicate this to the priest, deacon or minister.



Catholic Parish of St Mary & St Thomas More
2 Hallcourt Crescent, Cannock, WS11 0AB
Parish Priest: Fr Peter Weatherby tel: 07766 335591
Deacons: Rev Michael Vickery, Rev Paul Hender
Parish Sister: Sr Jacinta Mariette / Sr Sebastian
Stafford Hospital Chaplaincy: 01782 676400
New Cross & Cannock Hospital Chaplains: 01902 695098
St Mary's Centre (Meals and Functions) 01543 579364
priest@cannockcatholic.org & www.cannockcatholic.org
Cafod Representative: Jo Burrowes
Safeguarding: Jo Burrowes & Ann Hinsley
(Birmingham Diocesan Trust: Reg Charity No. 234216)

Masses, Intentions & other services

Check mass intentions online at bit.ly/mass-intentions

16th December • Advent Three • Mercy

Sat 15 5pm Joan & Harold Goode
Sun 16 8am Ann Costello (sp int)
10.30am Peter Garnett Birthday Intentions
Mon 17 1:30pm *Funeral Mass of Tony Nunn*
Tue 18 9:15am Albert Wood RIP
Wed 19 9:15am Duncan Angus RIP
Thu 20 9:15am Sam & Muriel Taylor RIP
10.45am Holy Souls (at St Thomas More School)
Fri 21 9.15am
Sat 22 10am Parish and People

22nd December • Advent Four • Visitors

Sat 22 5pm Sanders and Perry Families RIP
Sun 23 8am Irene & Bert Owen RIP
10.30am Parish and People

Children's Liturgy

(usually) Sunday at 10.30am Mass (not 9th)

Journey in Faith is on a break till the new year.

Exposition (Holy Hour) Saturdays 9am to 9.50am

Funeral Mass Monday 17th December, 1:30pm Tony Nunn (Tony is taken in Church at 3.45pm on Sunday).

Baptism Sunday 23rd December 12noon, Amelia Rose Seresinhe

Rosary 8.50am before Mass on Thursday and Friday

Morning Prayer 9.40am Saturday

Confessions usually Sat 9-9.50am, 10.30-11am, 4.30-4.50pm.

Parish Income 9th Dec £634.07 (£287.76 Gift Aid), Parish Development Fund £350.48 (£125.67), Poor Parishes £46 Gift Aid.. Thank you!

The Second Collection this weekend is for the Poor Parishes Fund. Apologies that the Gift Aid envelopes bore last Sunday's date. Money that is contributed through the envelopes always goes to whatever it says on the envelope.

Second collections: this weekend: Poor Parishes Fund, 24th/25th Dec Only collection: Christmas Offerings for your priest

APF: Total for Autumn quarter was £624.43 and total for year £2625.60 thank you to promoters and subscribers. Thanks for everyone for their generosity and to Eileen Clancy for organising the contributions.

Diocesan Newsletter for December is now available: bit.ly/2PGQ7VI

Fr Peter

What must we do?

Christmas Offerings There is one collection at each of the Christmas Masses, which is your offering for your parish priest. Envelopes are available from Church if you wish to make use of them. Offerings can of course be made at other times: Fr Peter is already grateful for gifts who he already been received.

Parish Christmas Cards are now available - take one or more to give to friends and neighbours!

Walk with Me for Advent Booklets for daily readings and Family Calendars are now available. Help yourselves (donations welcome)

Christmas Masses Rota for Ministers and Readers. Please check for your name on the rota at the back of the Church. Copies of the readings are available from Fr Peter.

St Mary's Key Stage 2 have their Christmas Performance in Church on Tuesday evening. The Mass that day will be at 9.15am.

Wednesday 19th 7pm Cardinal Griffin Christmas Carol Concert takes place in the College. All are invited.

Friday Dec 21st 1.15pm Christmas Carols led by St Mary's School.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve

4pm Nativity Mass

Children: please come as a Nativity Character
Adults: wear your Christmas Jumper!

6pm Carols,

6.30pm Mass of Christmas Night



Christmas Day

10am Mass of Christmas Day

Family Christmas Party in the Centre, Sunday December 30th from 6pm. No charge, but please add your names to the list in Church if you hope to come. There will be fund raising on the evening and you will be invited to make appropriate donations.

The 'O' Antiphons



17th to 23rd December might be styled "Advent Part Two".

In the earlier part of Advent, the focus of the Church's worship, and especially the readings, is on the second coming of Christ at the end of time, and the "Four Last Things", Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell.

In the last week or so, before Christmas Eve, the focus switches to the first coming of Christ which we will soon celebrate, and the texts of our worship recall the role of Our Lady, the visit of the angel Gabriel, as the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies of the coming of the Messiah.

In these days, in the Evening Prayer of the Church (Vespers) a short verse is recited before and after the Magnificat, the song of Our Lady, which recalls a title or description of the Messiah. These seven "antiphons", are addressed to Christ, so each begins "O, ..." Traditionally these seven days were named after the Antiphons, so 17th December is "O, Sapientia" (O Wisdom), the 18th is "O, Adonai" (O Lord) and so on. These texts are also used at Mass (though not necessarily in the same order or on the same day), and are probably best known to us in the Advent hymn "O come, O come, Emmanuel". Indeed, the very last Antiphon, for the evening of December 23rd, is "O, Emmanuel".

Here are the titles of the antiphons for each day.



- 17 O Sapientia O Wisdom
- 18 O Adonia O Lord
- 19 O Radix Jesse, O Stock of Jesse
- 20 O Clavis David, O Key of David
- 21 O Oriens, O Morning Star
(or Dawn or DaySpring)
- 22 O Rex Gentium, O King of the Nations
- 23 O Emmanuel

St. Mary's Friendship Club enjoyed a lovely carvery lunch at the Centre last Monday and thank the staff, and thank the children from the school for their singing. £80 was raised for Katharine House and 34.85 Kg of food donated to the food bank. On Tuesday the Songbirds raised iabout £3,000 at Our Lady of Lourdes MIND and to the Church.

St Mary's Centre 01543 579364

Sunday Carvery 12-4pm £6.95
 Wednesday Carvery 5.30-8pm 2 for £10
 Thursday 5.30-8pm 2 for £10 (OAP £4 each)
 Friday 5.30pm-8.30pm from 2 for £10

ALL FUNCTIONS CATERED FOR

Please Pray ...

... The Holy Father's Prayer Intention: That people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

... During this time of Advent, and the Christmas season, please pray for Christians in Bethlehem, the birth place of Jesus, that the Season's Blessings may bring them peace and joy.

... for all victims of abuse, and for all those involved in the work of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA)

... for our country, the government and all involved in the difficult discussions and negotiations which have come about after the referendum to leave the European Union: that there may be wisdom and a concern for all in society, especially the most vulnerable

... for the sick or housebound: Brendan Shannon, Don McCulloch, Mary Rowley, Helen Pawlak, Kath Turner, Stella Skillen, Winifride Haynes, Annette Mason, Doris Crabb, Joanne Jeavons, Nicola McCulloch, Celia Hurdiss, Dee Fellows, David Holt, Theresa Hadley, Dr Peter Hayward, Fr Pat Farrelly, June Weatherby.

... for those in our parish receiving communion at

home: Mary Kirby, Norah Perry, Peter Clamp, Don and Breeda Hinton, Gerry Marriott, Billie Wyles, Maria Wacławski, Catherine Holloway, Bernard Deakin, Iris Robertson, Mary Casey, Christine Rogers.

... for those undergoing or recovering from treatment or otherwise in particular need of our prayers: Anne Costello, John Morris, Fr Paul Chamberlain, Peter Garnett, Hannah Newborough, Peter Clamp, Kevin O'Mahony, LeeAnn Lister, Ray Bishop, Audrey George, Mitek Karasinska, Geoff Tipping, Fred Houghton, Josie Riley, James B, Helen, Michelle & Chris Bell

The Holy Souls

.... for the departed souls of our parish and our families ... for those who have died recently: Tony Nunn, Tom Murphy, Molly Dawes.

... for those with anniversaries about this time: 17th Sheila Pee, 18th Albert Wood, Harold Holt, 20th Richard Kirton, Marie Therese Christane Warren, Fred Taylor, 22nd Margaret Tyrell.

Thanksgivings

... for 80th birthday of Peter Garnett.

... for 86th birthday of Gordon Weatherby (Fr Peter's dad)

... for family and friends

Full rota is at bit.ly/cannockparishrota

ROTAS	Readers Sat 5pm	Ministers Sat 5pm	Readers Sun 8am	Ministers Sick Visiting	Readers Sun 10.30am	Ministers Sun 10.30am	Counters	Cleaning	Stole Washing
December 16th Advent 3 YEAR C	Sister Jacinta Shirley Weatherby	A & R Hinsley D & M Hibberts	Margaret Tym	P & C Wilson	Callum Pearce Colman Whitelaw	???, E Sargeant, Amy Pritchard Javier Gonzalez-Fritz	E. Clancy, G. Dockery	Team 6 S & T Bullivant G Dockery	Nancy Costello
December 23rd Advent 4 YEAR C	Patrick Warren Wendy Owens	S & T Bullivant P & C Wilson	David Korzonek	S & T Bullivant	Martyn Porter Shirley Weatherby	Gail & David Korzonek C Bridges, C Jackson	Michael Seavers David Gleve	Team 1 David Gleve Peter Garnet I Savage	Nancy Costello